The Wobbly Oscillator

Cuyahoga Amateur Radio Society

NO8A Special Event Call K8ZFR Cleveland Area Repeaters 146.82 - 443.825 - 444.75

NOVEMBER 2007 VOLUME XXXV ISSUE XI

FROM THE PREZ

Sorry I missed the October 9th meeting, I was in New Mexico. However, the members continue to show their great support for CARS. 38 came out for the meeting!

Vice President Scotty, WA8SLN presided over the meeting and from all reports did a good job.

Nominations were accepted for the 2008 core of Officers, elections will be held at our November 13, 2007 meeting. Please come out and vote on November 13, 2007.

For personal reasons, plus that I feel it is time to pass the torch after 8 years serving as your President, I have asked not to be nominated for President for 2008. I would like to remain an active member and have accepted a nomination for Treasurer of CARS should I be elected.

It has been an honor to serve as President for the last 8 years. As a club, we have accomplished much; revised our By-Laws to be a member friendly club, became a ARRL Special Service Club, established a scholarship fund awarding two $500.00 Scholarships each year to members and their families, we hold Extra, General & Technician classes each year, maintain a Ham Radio station at the Copley/Fairlawn Middle School, the repeater system has been totally rebuilt and remote inputs added, we started holding a annual summer picnic at no charge to members and their families, traveled on few road trips, held hands-on building projects, plus we have had a great line up speakers for almost every meeting. This list just touches on things CARS is now involved in. I hope these trends will continue and many other new ideas will emerge.

In a time where many clubs are losing members we have doubled our membership over the last 8 years and our attendance at meetings has doubled as well. The club is very much alive and I'm proud to be a member. Our very solid treasury and other real fixed assets allow us to do many projects plus donate to the community without asking the members for extra donations or raising our dues.

Another great experience in my tenure as President was to have CARS host the 2007 ARRL Great Lakes Convention September 22. (We also asked LEARA and NODXA to participate in the project.) The convention committee spent many hours over a year and half in planning and finally reaching our goal of hosting the Convention. It was well worth the effort and the results were amazing.

continued on next page...

Contents:

From the Prez.....pg 1
Meeting Minutes.....pg 2
Club Notices.....pg4
Riley Hollingsworth.....pg 4
Birthdays.....pg 5
Ron and the Drumer.....pg 6
Amateur's Code.....pg 6
DX Is.....pg 6
The Random Wire.....pg 7

We were all happy to make new friends, meet many great Hams one-on-one including Joel Harrison W5ZN President of the ARRL, others in ARRL leadership rolls, speakers as well as attendees.

I am also very proud to have been presented with the 2007 Great Lakes Division Amateur of the Year Award at the Convention. However without the support of our members these things would not be possible, we are a club with much more than the "usual 8 or 10" members contributing to everything the CLUB does, at least ½ of our membership is active in one way or another and many others tell me they want to participate but because of work or health reasons are not able.

I am very confident that Scotty WA8SLN will carry on and continue to move CARS ahead in 2008, please continue to give Scotty and all of the 2008 officers the same support you have shown me in the last 8 years.

That's it for my last WO as president please remember: ***Most of us miss out on lifes big prizes. The Pulitzer. The Nobel. Oscars. Tonys. Emmys. But we're all eligible for lifes small pleasures. A pat on the back. A kiss behind the ear. A four-pound bass. A full moon. An empty parking space. A crackling fire. A great meal. A glorious sunset. Hot soup. Cold beer. Don't fret about copping life's grand awards. Enjoy its tiny delights.***

73

de Bob W8GC

OCTOBER MEETING MINUTES

The C.A.R.S. October monthly meeting was called to order at 7:30 PM by Vice President Scotty Shields, WA8SLN, on the 9th of the month. The meeting was held at the Busch Funeral Chapel Community Room in Parma, Ohio. Thirty-five members and three guests introduced themselves to begin the meeting.

Matt, W8EBB, motioned to accept the September meeting minutes as published in the *Wobbly Oscillator,* and Mike, KB8UGT, seconded. There were no additions, corrections, or questions noted, and the members passed the motion.

Tina, W8HBI, gave the treasurer's report of the treasury balance. She added that the club made a profit on the Great Lakes Division Convention.

Scotty asked the group if there were any volunteers interested in setting up a station for the upcoming Boy Scout's Jamboree On The Air. Unfortunately, there was not enough interest to proceed.

Tedd, KB8NW, reported on the success of the ARRL Great Lakes Division Convention. He displayed the sign-in board from the hospitality suite containing signatures from those who attended which impressively included many famous names. He received e-mail from Jim Weaver, K8JE, the Great Lakes Division Director, complimenting the convention and saying Joel Harrison, W5ZN, ARRL President, sent a report to all the division directors and vice directors saying how well the convention went. Gary Johnston, KI4LA, the Great Lakes Division Vice Director, also e-mailed to say how much he was impressed with the convention. Tedd also received an e-mail from Bob Heil, K9EID, who was a sponsor and did a presentation with Chip Margelli, K7JA, who said it was one of the best and most well organized conventions he had ever attended. Mr. Heil asked when the next convention would be, so he would be sure to plan to be there. Tedd concluded by mentioning all the great feedback he received, especially at the hamfest the day after the convention.

Gary, NI8Z, reported on the VE sessions. The September session not only had people successfully taking tests, but a new sign was made by Steve, N8IS, and a group picture was taken. The sign was hung in front of the building making it easier for people to find. The sign and the picture can be seen on the C.A.R.S. website. Gary announced the last VE

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session for the year will be held on November 11th, at the Old Town Hall in Independence.

Scotty spoke about the basic operating skills class that C.A.R.S. would put on in March of next year, shortly after the license classes are over. The committee, comprised of Bob, W8GC; Steve, N8IS: George, K8KR; Gary, NI8Z; Dwaine, K8ME; and John, K8YSE; has already had it's first meeting and is developing an agenda.

Tina filled in the group with the details of the Christmas party. The date has been moved to December 15th. The party will be held at the Independence Civic center from 6:00 to 10:00 PM. Tickets will cost $15 for adults, $7.50 for youngsters 6 – 12 years old, and free for those under six. The catering will be done by Stancato's this year. Tina asked anyone with entertainment ideas to please contact her.

Bill, KC8YSV, announced the program for the November meeting will feature Dave Distler, KN9E, from Coaxial Dynamics. He will speak about Coaxial Dynamics 'involvement in the market, and how the market is evolving.

Scotty reported for Dave, KD8V, on the activities of the sunshine committee. A condolence card was sent to Mary Ellen Jenkins, XYL of Sam, WB8UES (SK), who passed away earlier this year. Dave also sent a card to Mike, K8EHP, who recently had a heart catheterization. Tina added that she sent a congratulatory card to Mike for being licensed as a ham for 50 continuous years. Scotty also encouraged all members who have yet to participate in a VP interview to please do so. There is now a link on the website for the interview, which makes it easier for this interesting information to get published in the *Wobbly Oscillator*.

Toby, WT8O, told the group about the success of the recent fund raising event by the Diabetes Association, "Step Out To Fight Diabetes", on October 6th. He said fourteen hams participated providing excellent communications between checkpoints along the route, rest stops, and support vehicles; despite the normal downtown problems.

Scotty reminded the group about the licensing classes scheduled for early next year. Technician, General and Extra classes will be offered. The classes will be held at the Independence Civic Center beginning January 8th and running through February 12th. Registration is available on the C.A.R.S. website.

Dave, K8DAV, said he has installed updated firmware on the repeater controller, which will make operations more stable. He also mentioned there has been some interfering signals as of late. He asked members to contact with any information they may have to help identify the source so he can attempt to solve the problem.

Nominations were held for the November election of club officers and vacant board members. Those nominated for the board of directors were Dave, K8DAV; Terry, KB8DTC; Steve, N8IS; and Ron, K8VJG. The nominations for officers included Steve, KC8DJV, and Tina, W8HBI, for secretary; Bob, W8GC, for treasurer; Toby, WT8O, and George, K8KR, for vice president; and Scotty, WA8SLN, for president. Gary, NI8Z, motioned to close the nominations, and Steve, N8IS, seconded. The members present voted to pass the motion. There will be an opportunity to make additional nominations at the November meeting.

The 50/50 raffle was won by Metro, W8MET, who pocketed $34, with an equal amount going into the club treasury. In addition, a subscription to *World Radio* was won by Steve, KC8DJV. Hats were won by Dave, K8DAV; Steve, KC8DJV; and John, K8RWR.

A motion to close the meeting was made by Matt, W8EBB, and seconded by Mike, K8EHP. The motion was passed and the meeting was adjourned at 8:36 PM. *continued on next page....*

Following the meeting, a presentation on direction finding antennas was given by Bill, WA8GEO, and Mike, K8EHP. Respectfully submitted by Toby Kolman, WT8O, C.A.R.S. secretary.

2008 LICENSE CLASSES

Sign up now for 2008 Ham Radio classes, Technician, General or Extra license starting January 8 and ending February 19, 2008.

Classes will be held at the Independence Civic Center, 6363 Selig Dr. in the RED OAK room at 7:00 pm every Tuesday. Class fees: Technician $25.00, General and Extra $20.00 non CARS members and $15.00 CARS members cost includes all class materials.

To register follow the link at www/2cars.org and fill out the application or call Bob, W8GC at 216-524-1750

2008 CARS DUES

It's that time of year again. Regular Membership Dues are $20.00 per year. If you are over 60 or under 18 years of age your dues are $12.00 per year.

Membership entitles you voting rights and monthly subscription to our club newsletter, the Wobbly Oscillator.

Dues can be paid at a upcoming meeting, by sending your payment by credit card via www.PayPal.com (to e-mail address bob@2cls.com or by mailing to CARS, PO Box 31264, Independence, OH 44131-0264

CARS CHRISTMAS PARTY

The CARS Christmas Party is being held Saturday, December 15th from 6:00 - 10:00 p.m. at the Independence Civic Center on Selig Drive. Tickets are $15 for adults, $7.50 for children 6-12 yrs old and under 6 free.

Stancatos is our caterer this year is serving: Italian Marinated Baked Chicken, Roast Beef with Gravy, Baked Glazed Ham, Au Gratin Potatoes, California Vegetables, Salad w/Italian Dressing and Garlic Sticks. We are asking our guests to please bring their favorite dessert to share :)

ZAP has been secured as entertainment for a all new comedy/magic show. And Jack, W8JAK will be providing music during the event -- and Gary NI8Z said to bring your singing voices !!

Tickets will be available at the November CARS Meeting or you can mail a check to : CARS, PO Box 31264, Independence, OH 44131

Another payment option is to pay by credit card at www.paypal.com (sending payment to e-mail addressbob@2cls.com) and we'll mail you your tickets. If paying by PayPal please make sure to put your call sign and type of tickets you are purchasing.

Contact Tina W8HBI 216-524-7711 (work) 216-520-2621 (home) with any questions. Hope to see you there.

RILEY HOLLINGSWORTH RETIRES

From the ARRL BULLETIN

Riley Hollingsworth, K4ZDH, Special Counsel in the FCC's Enforcement Bureau, announced his retirement this week, effective Thursday, January 3, 2008.

While his successor has not been named, Hollingsworth was quick to point out that the FCC's Amateur Radio enforcement program will continue. Hollingsworth told the ARRL: "After about a year of thinking about the 'if not now, when?' question, I decided to retire January 3.

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love working for the FCC and I've always had great jobs, but this one involving the Amateur Radio Service has been the most fun and I have enjoyed every day of it."

He continues, "For nine years I've worked with the best group of licensees on earth, enjoyed your support and tremendous FCC support and looked forward every day to coming to work. The Amateur Radio enforcement program will continue without missing a beat, and after retirement I look forward to being involved with Amateur Radio every way I can. I thank all of you for being so dedicated and conscientious, and for the encouragement you give us every day.

Hollingsworth has been in charge of FCC amateur rules enforcement since 1998 and has held the title of Special Counsel for Amateur Radio since 1999. He has spearheaded nearly a decade of revitalized FCC enforcement activities on the ham bands, after some 15 years of "benign neglect" by the Commission. Hollingsworth assured CQ that the FCC's active enforcement of amateur radio rules will continue even after his retirement.

Hollingsworth is a native of South Carolina and holds a Master's degree in political science from the University of South Carolina as well as a law degree from Wake Forest University Law School. Prior to taking the reins of amateur radio rules enforcement, Hollingsworth served in several other FCC positions, including Deputy Chief of Licensing and Assistant Chief of the Wireless Telecommunications Bureau. He works out of the FCC's Gettysburg, Pennsylvania office.

NEWS FLASH

HOLLINGSWORTH TO STAY PUT AT FCC

Riley Hollingsworth, K4ZDH, Special Counsel for the FCC's Enforcement Bureau, has decided not to retire. He had announced last week that he would leave the FCC in January 2008.

Riley states, "After spending the entire weekend thinking about the decision [to retire], it became more and more clear to me that it just isn't the right decision for me right now. There are several issues on the table that I want to continue to work through with the amateur community."

The Enforcement Bureau is the primary organizational unit within the Federal Communications Commission that is responsible for enforcement of provisions of the Communications Act, the Commission's rules, Commission orders and terms and conditions of station authorizations, as well as enforcement of Amateur Radio rules (Part 97).

Editor's note: Way to go Riley ! Glad you are sticking around for awhile.

NOVEMBER BIRTHDAYS

KC8MRC Robert Ozog 11-6-55
WA8UFZ David Yost 11-6-52
KC8OUH Jeff Venecek 11-7-52
W8JET Michael Merriman 11-11-88
N8UIR Thomas J Powell 11-12-66
WA8ERA Lee Georgia 11-13-43
KB8UND Timothy Frey 11-20-76
KC8ZBP Sharon Andrisin 11-22
KB8QJA Pete Gerard 11-28-35
KC8LDI Ryan Dressler 11-26

Many happy returns to you all !

Check into the CARS weekly net on Wednsday nights at 9:00 p.m. Try your hand at the trivia question and say hi to your fellow CARS members.

THE "BIG BOOMER" AND RON

Submitted by Ron Borkey, K8VJG

Here is a photograph taken on 6-19-2006 by John, K8YSE. John Adams is employed at Ameritech as a computer specialist. John, K8YSE was also employed there and is retired from there.

John Adams held a Technician License

which is expired and past the grace period. His XYL however, does have a valid Technician License.

73 de Ron, K8VJG

Editor's note....Ron had added a "GO TRIBE" at the end of his article, but we all know how that turned out! Oh well, as "they" say, there's always next year. I wonder who the heck "they" are?

THE AMATEUR"S CODE

Reprinted with permission from World Radio Magazine, March 2007 issue

With the elimination of the Morse code requirement, perhaps it is a good time to review another Code: The Amateur's Code. It is an important part of our foundation and the new Hams entering our community ham may not have read it. Paul M. Segal, W9EEA , wrote the Amateur's Code in 1928.

The Radio Amateur is:

CONSIDERATE...never knowingly operates in such a way as to lessen the pleasure of others.

LOYAL...offers loyalty, encouragement and support to other amateurs, local clubs and the American Radio Relay League, through which Amateur Radio in the United States is represented nationally and internationally.

PROGRESSIVE...with knowledge abreast of science, a well-built and efficient station above reproach.

FRIENDLY...slow and patient operating when requested; friendly advice and counsel to the beginner; kindly assistance, cooperation and consideration for the interests of others. These are the hallmarks of the amateur spirit.

BALANCED...radio is an avocation, never interfering with duties owed to family, job, school or community.

PATRIOTIC...station and skill always ready for service to country and community.

Still good words to live by today...Ed.

DX IS

By Dan Zimmerman, N3OX

Reprinted with permission from World Radio Magazine, March 2007 issue

I just stumbled upon Amateur Radio in 1995 at 15 years old as a result of thorough geekery and a little bit of CB. DX hooked me. None of my friends got it. *continued on next page....*

You can turn the radio on and let them listen to the beeping or the Donald Duck voices and tell them that they're coming in from Faraway Place X and they just don't get it. I think it's because DX isn't about distance, but that's all you can really talk about. It's not about contacting foreign nations, you can do that on the internet. DX is about the quality of the band when the K index is zero and it's four in the morning and the lake effect snow is howling outside. It's about staring out the window into the darkness as you spin the knob and you're not in the shack; not really anyway. You're out *there* somewhere, looking for the DX.

DX is about the emptiness of a quiet open band. It's about the potential to trip across a new one faintly bleeping a CQ and being the only one to answer.

I get it. Not many people these days do. I think the magic is there but it's changed and it's more subtle. Instant contact with any point on the globe is routine, but you have to know how to get hold of them. My girlfriend gets it. There used to be a phone booth out in the middle of the Mojave desert - it was for some mining town. They'd drive four or five miles out to use the phone if they needed to. Most of the time it was an empty phone booth in the middle of the desert with no one around for miles. She used to call it and listen to it ring...

Put a signal out there, see what comes back...

THE RANDOM WIRE

By Tom Wayne, WB8N

FALL IS FINALLY HERE

It's that time of year again guys and gals...time to get to work on your antennas before the cold wind and snow begins to blow, and it won't be long I'm afraid. Halloween has come and gone, and this coming weekend we will all be setting our clocks back an hour. We have election of officers at our next meeting and the Christmas party is just around the corner.

DIABETES ASIN. WALK

The Cleveland Chapter of the American Diabetes Assn. had another successful walk last month. CARS once again provided communications for the walk and everything went well. The weather was great and we didn't even experience any unwanted interference. I want to thank the following volunteers for helping out: Toby WT8O, Gary NI8Z,, Gary KD8GRB, Carl W8KRF, Ron K8VJG, Mike K8EHP, Mary KC8YLC, Dave KD8V, Mike KB8BMY, Buffalo Jim N8GXR, Bill N8BBB, Mike KB8UGT, Steve K8SAS, Dick KA8EEW, and two non-CARS members who just wanted to help out, Brad, KD8DWK and David KD8ACO. There was also a group of EMT's who volunteered and patrolled the walk route. They are: Bob N8QHC, Judy N8QMM, Jason N8EMT and Doug N8VUR. Thanks again to one and all. The Diabetes Assn. very much appreciates our efforts and has invited us back again for next year's walk.

TTFN

That's about all I've got for this month, so I'll see you at the next meeting, on the air, or both.

73 for now,

de Tom, WB8N

The Wobbly Oscillator is a monthly publication of the Cuyahoga Amateur Radio Society, P.O. Box 31264, Independence, OH 44131-0264. Articles may be reprinted in any Amateur Radio related publication, provided that credit is given to this newsletter and to the author, if known. All submissions should be e-mailed in .doc, .wpd, or .txt format to: newsletter@2cars.org by the 26th of the month for publication in the next month's issue. By reading this you have committed yourself to at least two of the following: recruit a new member to C.A.R.S., bring an new person in to the hobby, to attend as many meetings as you can, to check into the weekly C.A.R.S. net, volunteer for at least one of the many C.A.R.S. committees.